

activity in young women if they knew that they had to risk confronting their parents, and that only, although I don't agree with that opinion, that can only hold true if young women have the information about this law in the first place. And that is why we successfully put into the parental notification law a vehicle of giving this information to young women that it would impact. All of us last or most of us last year, the point of consensus in the debate about the informed consent was that we wanted to promote women having full access to information about abortion, about what kind of supports might be there for them to sustain their pregnancy, and I think the issue that we faced a few years ago on the parental notification is how was the best way to get this information out. And since most young people are in the public schools, we felt that this was a good place to do it. I realize that created problems for the schools. They had a lot of pressure put on them and the debate in their school boards. Perhaps in retrospect, we should have just said the Department of Education come up with a form and mandate that that form be used in all the schools. But in due respect to local control, we did not and I would accept LB 660 if it does have this amendment on it because it does get at the issue of providing access to this information at a point that most young people will be involved, and I do particularly like it. If I'd have had this option originally might have picked it because I think that the dissemination of this information during a physical exam by a medical practitioner gives the opportunity, if the medical practitioner so desires, to offer this as a chance to answer questions or to discuss a full range of issues regarding a young person's sexuality. So I would urge you to take a serious look at this. I think that the fact that this would be in conjunction with the physical exams required of all young people, that it would be information that would be put together by the Department of Health, that it is a good alternative to removing access information for young people, who would be impacted by the parental notification bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President and members. Senator Bohlke, as I reread it quickly, I think you might be on the right track. Originally, I did vote for the information to be sent through the public schools when the notification bill was passed, and I think, if I remember correctly, both sides were angry with me. Nobody wanted that. But it did seem that the young women should at least know what was out there. The